



IFW

Docket No.: 050395-0373

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                             |   |                            |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of        | : | Customer Number: 20277     |
| Masatada NUMANO, et al.     | : | Confirmation Number: 7856  |
| Application No.: 10/579,442 | : | Group Art Unit: 1725       |
| Filed: May 15, 2006         | : | Examiner: Not yet assigned |
| For: CASTING NOZZLE         | : |                            |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

.10/579,442

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: March 23, 2007**

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277  
as our correspondence address.**

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
**050395-0373**

SERIAL NO.  
**10/579,442**

APPLICANT  
**Masatada NUMANO, et al.**

FILING DATE  
**May 15, 2006**

GROUP  
**1725**

(PTO-1449)

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|---------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
|                     |          | US  |                                |   |   |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Codes - Number - Kind<br>Codes (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines<br>Where Relevant<br>Figures Appear | Translation<br>Yes No |
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## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |  |
|---------------------|----------|---|--|
|                     |          | <b>International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion issued in International Application No. PCT/JP2005/011707, dated January 18, 2007.</b>   |  |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.